# MUSEUM GRAPHIC
LOS ANGELES MUSEUM

VOL. 1 SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1927 SUPPLEMENT NO. 1


# Special Notice

The Director of the Museum, who also serves as the editor of this journal, has been granted a leave of absence by the Board of Governors and the Board of Supervisors, and is making an extended journey abroad. The magazine features of the Graphic, which have been so well received by the patrons and friends of the Museum, will be discontinued during his absence, but the journal will continue as a series of Supplements to Volume One which was indexed last June. The Supplements will be published from time to time as required and will contain brief announcements of the exhibitions, lectures, and other special activities of the Museum in its several departments.

Those desiring to preserve the files of the Graphic for binding are advised to hold the series open until further announcement in order that the projected series of Supplements may be added to Volume One.

**Second Unit Under Construction**

As noted in the May-June number of the Graphic, work had been begun on the excavation for the second unit of the new Los Angeles Museum. At this writing the erection of the steel structure is well advanced and the sound of the riveting hammer is a welcome though distracting sound that is gladly accepted as an unmistakable token of growth and progress at the museum. When unit number two is completed it will provide a new entrance, on the south side of the museum. The combined east and west length of units one and two is 489 feet. The unit under construction, in addition to storage rooms, offices, lecture and class rooms, etc., will add some twenty galleries and exhibition halls to the museum's facilities for public showings.

**Museum Now Open Wednesday Afternoon**

At a meeting of the Board of Governors on September 22nd it was voted to open the museum building to the public on Wednesday afternoons. The executive offices will close at noon as in the past.

After October first the new hour schedule will be: Museum open from 10 A. M. to 4:30 P. M. daily except Saturday, 10 A. M. to 4 P. M., and Sunday, 2 to 5 P. M.



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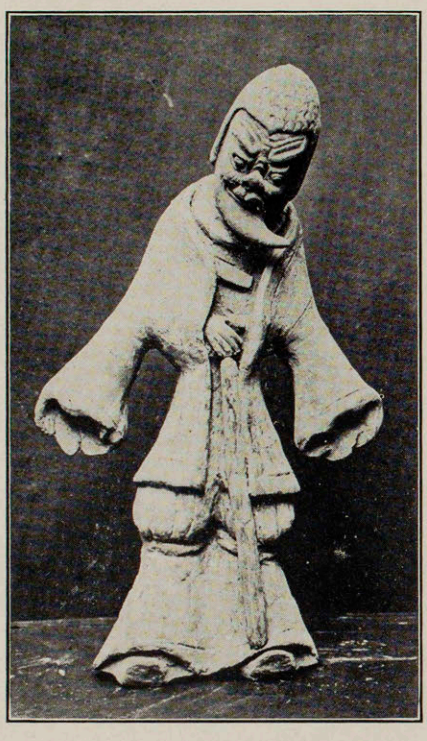

POTTERY FIGURE—WEI DYNASTY. (386-535 A. D.)

## The Munthe Collection of Chinese Art

An art exhibition, rivaling in importance any art event of similar character ever held in the West, was opened to the Los Angeles public in September. The Chinese Collection of Art, loaned by General J. W. N. Munthe of Peking, China, has been installed in Gallery G for an indefinite period, and additional paintings, too numerous for the capacity of Gallery G, will fill Gallery A until November 13.

The exhibition includes paintings, porcelains, pottery, sculpture and bronzes, and represents a lifetime of serious collecting by one who has been most fortunately placed in an unusually advantageous situation to gather the priceless art objects of China. General Munthe has lived in Peking for thirty-five years, and has held successively positions of political and military importance. He is today in active service in the Chinese Army—stationed in Peking. This opportunity, coupled with his recognized connoisseurship and great wealth, has made possible a collection unexcelled among the private collections of China. That he has been willing to allow these treasures to be brought to the Los Angeles Museum speaks significantly of the position in the art world which this museum now holds.

Space does not permit a detailed description of the many items in the collection, which are individually catalogued. All Chinese inscriptions

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**Landscape by Wang Yuan-Chi (1642-1715)** *(From the Imperial Palace, Peking)*

"Crowded pines and steep rocks surrounding a running stream; the buildings high up in the clouds that blind the eyes.

A woodcutter carrying two bundles of hay walking along the rocky road; many old men riding on the mountain path, while the highness of the peaks and bending willow branches add more beauty to the scenery.

Two old gentlemen are sitting together, talking about old affairs.

The high mountains and the running streams are worthy to be mentioned in these few lines. (Signed) Wang Yuan-Chi.

This is written on the 3rd moon of the spring of Keng Wu, in the capital."

### Lectures and Entertainments

The public and especially the members of the Museum Patrons' Association will appreciate the difficulties under which the normal activities of the museum are carried on, amid the noise and confusion of building; and it is hoped that all will be reasonable in their demands and will co-operate with the museum staff during this trying period. The joining of the first and second units will necessitate the closing of certain sections for several months and the alteration or reduction of exhibits in other parts of the building. It is hoped that the courses of lectures which were so successfully inaugurated under the auspices of the Museum Patrons' Association last year may be continued—at least in part—during the season of 1927-28. However, it is anticipated at this writing that it will not be feasible, on account of noise and confusion, to hold regular lectures successfully for some months.

It is planned to present at least one lecture a month during the winter season, and it seems advisable to have it on Sunday afternoon to escape the noise of building. All lectures will be held in African Hall, on the second floor, at 3 o'clock.

The Association will present as many topics as possible under the present conditions, and every lecturer will be the best authority on his subject that it is possible to secure.

For the announcement of the October program, see last page.

### Attendance

The attendance at the museum during the fiscal year 1926-27 was checked by an attendant each day. The record secured is of immense interest and value as indicating the public appreciation of the facilities for recreation and culture afforded by the museum. The detailed figures show that the largest daily attendance was on August 15, 1926, when 10,282 persons entered the museum in three hours. The grand total attendance for the year was very nearly one million—724.500 to be exact.

### Dr. Bryan Sails for Europe

Word has just been received that Dr. and Mrs. Bryan left New York on Friday, September 23rd, on the Cunarder "Lancastria" for London. They expect to spend six weeks or two months in Europe, returning through the Panama Canal to wish Los Angeles "Happy New Year."

### Dr. Comstock Acting as Director of the Museum

Dr. John A. Comstock, well known Los Angeles scientist, has been appointed Acting Director under the Board of Governors, during Dr. Bryan's absence. Dr. Comstock brings to the Museum's service his splendid experience as the former Director of the Southwest Museum. He will be at the Museum Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings of each week.

### The Munthe Collection

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have been translated and all seals identified. Each object has been given its dynastic classification and artists' names are indicated whenever known.

The collection has been exhibited in Peking for many years and has been subjected to the searching criticism of Chinese connoisseurs. The fact that it has passed through this crucible of criticism and has maintained its reputation for unsurpassed quality and condition, speaks authoritatively for its authenticity and its date attributions.

# MUSEUM LIBRARY NOTES

It would seem that formulating desires and expressing them in words is sufficient to make them materialize, for, since writing the library notes in the last issue of the Museum Graphic, a substantial and valuable gift of nearly 200 volumes has been presented to the Museum library!

They consist chiefly of history, travel and biography, and the donor is Mr. William Preston Harrison.

The following interesting items are included, to mention only a few:

TRAVEL

Hall, Travels in North America in 1827-28. London, 1829.

Brackenridge, Voyage to Buenos Ayres in 1817. London, 1820.

Franklin, Capt. John. Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea. 4 vols. London, 1829.

Tytler, Progress of Discovery on the More Northern Coasts of America. Harper, 1839.

Paijkull, A Summer in Iceland. 1868.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

Heeren, Historical Works. 6 vols.

Milman, History of the Jews. 3 vols.

James, History of Chivalry. London, 1830.

Connor, History of Poland. London, 1698.

Lardner, History of Poland. London, 1831.

(The last two items are particularly noteworthy, owing to the recent restoration of Poland, which makes her early history doubly interesting.)

Murray, Historical account of discoveries and travels in North America. 2 vols. London, 1829.

Wood, Suppressed History of the Administration of John Adams. 1846.

Raymond, History of the Administration of President Lincoln, 1864.

Maryland Historical Society. Archives of Maryland. 24 vols.

Arthur, History of Georgia. 1861.

Giddings, Exiles of Florida. 1865.

Hart, History of the Mississippi Valley. 1853.

Adams, J. Q., Lives of Madison and Monroe.

Seward, W. H., Life and Public Services of J. Q. Adams.

Horton, Life of James Buchanan. 1856.

Goodwin, Biography of Andrew Jackson. 1854.

Goodrich, History of the So-called Christopher Columbus.

Lester & Foster, Life and Voyages of Americus Vespucci.

MISCELLANEOUS

Robertson, History of the Christian Church.

Milman, History of Christianity.

Northrup, Twelve Years a Slave. 1853.

Whitney, Life and Growth of Language.

Muller, Max., Science of Language. 2 vols.

Ellis, Negro Culture in West Africa.

Sproat, Scenes and Studies of Savage Life. London, 1868.

This last is a rare and extremely interesting account of the natives of Vancouver Island, their appearance, habits, beliefs and customs, together with the early history of the settlement of the island by the English.

A copy of this book was recently quoted in a New York catalog at the price of $37.50.

Besides the above mentioned works, there are many of more modern date, equally interesting and

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## Extension Department Growing

The great ambition of the extension department of the museum is to circulate among the schools representative groups of the things which are on exhibit at the Museum. The extension service is carried on especially for those schools which are too far from the Museum for its students to make frequent visits.

So far the service has been devoted principally to exhibitions for art classes, and almost fifty separate groups have been made ready to begin circuiting on October first. They include original water colors, oils, drawings, etchings and block prints by well known contemporary artists, some very lovely color reproductions of the Old Masters of all schools, and a large collection of designs from many ages and places. These last are particularly well suited to study and adaptation for creative work among students.

All the exhibits are mounted or framed attractively and are planned to carry and display to advantage. They are at the call of art teachers in every part of southern California, of librarians and clubs for exhibit work, and are sent with no expense except transportation one way.

As its first effort in the other realms of the museum's activities a collection of Indian implements, including axes, drills, arrowheads, baskets, etc., has been prepared under the direction of the Junior Museum for the use of the Nature Study Department of the Los Angeles City Schools. With this opening wedge the extension work hopes to take its place in the general plan of service by the Museum to the public.

## The Junior Museum

This month the Junior Museum has added valuable material to its collection through the generosity of Mrs. E. H. Pepper, who in memory of her husband has given us a collection of spearheads, arrowheads and axes. For several years, because of his health, Dr. Pepper lived with the Indians of Wisconsin and Minnesota. A collection of firearms which is valuable because of the old types used has also been given, as well as several objects of Colonial interest. Among these— a piece of the Liberty Pole from Massachusetts, wood from Witch House at Salem and the keel of the old *Constitution,* a stockade post from Andersonville Prison, and a split rail from Abraham Lincoln's home. These were mainly acquired while on a trip through the Southern and New England states.

Dr. Edwards, Nature Supervisor of the Los Angeles schools, has shown great interest in the work of the Junior Museum and has expressed his appreciation of the Department and the educational efforts that are being made in behalf of the children. He has brought members of his staff to visit us and has borrowed specimens that are to be shown in the schools of the city.

One of the latest installations, and of interest to many, is a group of colored prints framed by the Daily Vacation School. The children were taught how to make them by Dr. Bull, who supplemented this instruction with a talk on the lives of some of the artists. The response has been gratifying.

There have been some changes in arrangement. The bird specimens in particular have been made more attractive by the addition of a colored background and the remounting and regrouping of them.

## Art Exhibitions Held July, 1926-July, 1927

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| **1926** | |
| JULY-AUGUST: | Loan Collection of Paintings |
| | Paintings by Warren Wheelock |
| | Sculpture by Arnold Ronnebeck |
| | Drawings by Boris Deutsch |
| | Museum Collection of Japanese Prints |
| SEPTEMBER: | Paintings by George Bellows |
| | Museum Collection of Paintings |
| | Etchings by Loren Barton, Margery Ryerson, Anne Goldthwaite |
| | Fantastic Decorations by Joseph Paget-Fredericks |
| OCTOBER: | Annual Exhibition of California Art Club |
| | Peruvian Furniture |
| | Annual Exhibition of California Water Color Society |
| | "Blue Four" (Kandinsky, Klee, Feininger, Jawlensky) |
| | Matisse Prints |
| | Water Colors by Fred Monhoff |
| | Exhibtion by American Indian School Children |
| NOVEMBER: | Exhibition of Colonial Furniture |
| | Woodblocks and Etchings by Blanding Sloan |
| DECEMBER: | Colonial Furniture |
| | Fictile Ivories |
| | Woodblocks by Franz Marc |
| | Paisley Shawls (Bovey Collection) |
| | Exhibition by Leo Katz |
| | Exhibition of Dolls, Books, Toys for Children |
| **1927** | |
| JANUARY: | Exhibition, California Chapter Institute of Architects |
| | Harrison Collection of Modern French Art |
| | Cheney Brothers' Collection Period Costumes |
| | Annual Exhibition, International Photographic Salon, auspices Camera Pictorialists of Los Angeles |
| FEBRUARY: | National Society Miniature Painters |
| | Two Synchromists: S. M. Wright, Morgan Russell |
| | Decorative Textiles by Jean DuBouillier |
| | Monotypes by Petrella di Bologna |
| MARCH: | Paintings by Thomas Eakins |
| | Water Colors and Prints by Valere de Mari |
| | International Exhibition of Prints under auspices of California Printmakers Society |
| APRIL: | Annual Exhibition of Painters and Sculptors |
| | Paintings and Sculpture by Alexandre Archipenko |
| | Prints by Modern Europeans |
| | Art of Children as shown in Modern European Books |
| MAY: | Exhibition of Drawings by Diego Rivera |
| | Annual Exhibition, Bookplate Association International |
| | Annual Exhibition by Arthur W. Dow Association |
| JUNE: | Exhibition by students of Otis Art Institute |
| | Exhibition of Woodblocks by Gordon Craig |
| | Exhibition of Monotypes by William H. Clapp |

### Schedule of Art Exhibitions

Exhibitions for the season 1927-1928 opened September first with the Eighth Annual Exhibition of the California Water Color Society. It is much the largest and most important show the club has held. There are many new members whose work adds much of interest.

Also during September are individual exhibitions by George "Pop" Hart—Mr. Hart showing both water colors and prints; water colors by Charles P. Killgore; a group of small etchings by Thomas Hunt, and etchings by Seymour Haden. These etchings belong to a valuable collection of prints presented to the Museum by Wallace DeWolf.

On September tenth, the Munthe Collection of Chinese paintings, sculpture, bronzes, porcelain and pottery was opened to the public.

During October additional paintings belonging to this collection will be shown in the main gallery. Paintings by Henrietta Shore and photographs by Edward Weston will be on exhibition this month.

November and December—Exhibition of Modern French and American paintings, prints and sculpture. Opening the middle of November, continuing through December, the 18th Annual Exhibition of the California Art Club.

November—Water colors by Helen Forbes.

December—Small paintings by Dana Bartlett.

### Lecture Program

In honor of the opening of the exhibition of the Munthe Collection of Chinese Art, the Museum Patrons Association has secured for the first speaker of the fall lecture series T. R. Fleming, well known Los Angeles Orientalist.

Mr. Fleming is a collector and a connoisseur, and has written authoritatively on Chinese and Japanese art and poetry.

He will talk about the Munthe Collection at the Museum on *Sunday afternon, October 16th, at three o'clock*. Patrons and friends of the Museum, lovers of art and things Oriental are very cordially invited.

### Museum News Notes

**Otis Art Institute Opens for Fall Term**

Otis Art Institute opened its fall term on Monday, September 26, with a larger enrollment than ever before. The splendid faculty, headed by Karl Howenstein as Managing Director, remains intact, and the plan for the year's work is a very comprehensive one.

**Museum Governor Traveling Abroad**

Word has been received from Col. and Mrs. George J. Denis, who have been traveling in Europe for several months, that they are enjoying a very pleasant trip among the Islands of the English Channel.

### Museum Library Notes

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covering a wide field, including a number of important government publications.

So, "Friends and Fellow-citizens," please take note, and may you be inspired to follow Mr. Harrison's example and help us to build up a reference library of "History, Science and Art" that will rank with the finest on the Pacific Coast, a Mecca for students and scientists and a feature of the museum in which all citizens of Los Angeles County may take pride and pleasure, feeling a personal interest in strengthening its resources and adding to its treasures.